

MIST PROPAGATION FOR HIBISCUS - L. K. Thompson

The mist method of propagation essentially consists of placing soft cuttings with foliage in a light porous rooting medium and keeping them moist at all times with a fine mist. This may be continuous or controlled by an intermittent timer. The important thing is that the cuttings should never become dry during daylight hours. The mist may be cut off at night. Under these conditions they root very rapidly and some varieties may be ready to pot in 10 days.

The equipment is inexpensive. A mist nozzle costs only about \$2.00 and little plumbing is required to attach it to a faucet through a hose. The nozzle should be about 2 feet above the bed and will cover about 25 sq. ft. if protected from the wind. The rooting medium may be fine gravel, wood shavings and perlite or coarse sand or a mixture of these. It is better to put each batch of cuttings into a separate container so when they are rooted they may be removed without disturbing the others. They should be hard-end off for several days in a shady moist location before potting.

It has even proved feasible to graft tender cions with foliage attached onto soft wood cuttings and by the time that roots are formed, the graft will be secure. Some commercial use of this method is now being considered but it should also prove valuable for the amateur when properly understood.

-0-

CORBIN FARM SUPPLY

Your Friendly Checkerboard Store

2090 Main Street
EDison 7-1177

Warehouse
2615 EDison Avenue
EDison 7-7341

SEEDS, FEEDS, FERTILIZERS, PET
SUPPLIES AND GARDEN SUPPLIES

Ft. Myers, Florida
Free Delivery

ROOT GRAFTING FOR HIBISCUS - L. K. Thompson

The principle of root grafting has long been used when propagating some deciduous plants. We are indebted to Mr. Clarence Bass of Miami for demonstrating his success with this method.

Sections of root from any good root stock variety are grafted by the cleft graft method with the union at the ground line. When placed in a cool moist place in quart cans or other small container, roots form readily and the plant may be exposed to full sun when vigorous growth begins.

The root sections should be similar in size or slightly larger than the cion and about 3" long. It is not necessary to have feeder roots or other branches on the root as these will soon be present.

This is an experimental idea and you should try it out before using valuable cion wood on it. We are only telling you that it can be done. Under ideal conditions it should be a very quick way of producing grafted plants without the long period of waiting for cuttings to root and become established before grafting.

-0-

SUBSCRIBE TO THE "TROPICAL LIVING, HOMEMAKER AND GARDENER" magazine thru the Seed Pod. It will help our bank account.

== = = = = Detach - - - here = = = = =

Please enter my subscription for Tropical Living, Homemaker and Gardener for a period of:

One year (\$2.00) _____ Two years (\$4.00) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Check here if this is a renewal order _____
Mail to: James Monroe, Box 25, Eagle Lake, Fla.